

Theresa J. Neiss

Crow Tribe Childcare Programs – Interim Director

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Ellen C. Wheatley, Ph. D.

Office of Child Care – Acting Director

Greetings,

Following is the Crow Tribe CCDF programs plan for obligation of CRRSA Funds.

Direct Child Care Services (Subsidies)

- Provide childcare services to all essential employees who might otherwise not qualify for care, this includes but not limited to, front line workers deemed essential within the Crow Tribe administration, IHS employees, local employees deemed essential, Crow Tribal members deemed essential living within service area but working outside of, providing more Family In-Home care providers to assist families experiencing hardships regarding childcare due to Covid-19 pandemic, while funds allow.
- Waive copayments for all families while funds allow.
- Provide a Start up grant (mini grant) business to later serve CCDF children.

Implementation of Virus Mitigation Policies and Practices

- Contract with Human Resource Development Council (HRDC), childcare office to develop a Policy and Procedure/Disaster Plan specified to Covid-19 precautions.
- Install air filtration systems at both center-based care facilities.
- Provide center-based staff with voucher to purchase scrub attire to reduce risk of contamination.
- Contract with Alsc0 to provide new rugs at entrances and to sanitize carpeted areas of both center-based care facilities.
- Propose “mud rooms” or design new entrances at both center based and home care centers to screen children/guests as well as offer a place to change out shoes.
- Purchase proper sanitizing equipment for hired custodial staff to sanitize both center-based care facilities after hours, provide training to custodial staff to use equipment properly.
- Provide vouchers to In-home care providers to purchase their own cleaning supplies to sanitize their homes with and/or contract with a professional cleaner to sanitize their homes.

- Provide all enrolled CCDF families with kits to sanitize children before entering designated childcare facilities.
- Purchase sanitizing stations for both center-based care facilities.
- Purchase more masks, face shield, gloves and cleaning supplies for staff and families.

Grants or Assistance (Other than Subsidies) to Stabilize Child Care Providers

- Temporary Incentive Pay for Providers/Staff members.
- Provide grocery stipends for current Family In-Home providers who are struggling to provide food for own family as well as children enrolled in Crow Tribe CCDF Program.
- Provide mini grants to home care providers for home repairs/upgrades (fencing and playground equipment for outdoor play).
- Repair Roof on main center-based facility to avoid further damage and allow Crow Tribal CCDF Program to remain in servicing condition.
- Repair Fence for outdoor play at College based childcare facility.

Assistance to Provider Not Participating in the Subsidy System Prior to the Pandemic

- Offer mini grants to licensed providers in our service area for support of their facility.
- Offer class to local providers and own to sign up for CACFP.
- Contract with Dave Graber and Lifeways Program to train CCDF eligible children on Lifeways Training.

Other

- Contract with IHS Commissioned Officer BruisedHead's team to implement newly formed grief therapy to deal with the aftereffects of the Covid-19 Pandemic for staff and families of children enrolled in the Crow Tribal CCDF Programs.
- Provide vouchers for providers for extended training including after work hours.
- Purchase toys, books, learning tools (tablets), play stations for both centers based childcare facilities as well as in-home care centers.
- Make other purchases and/or payments to allow Crow Tribe CCDF Programs to fall into compliance (trainings, repairs, disaster plans).
- Repair Roof on main center-based facility to avoid further damage and allow Crow Tribal CCDF Program to remain in servicing condition.
- Repair Fence for outdoor play at College based childcare facility.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I would love to see all these areas be met and come to fruition for the betterment of the Crow children.

Respectfully,

Theresa J. Neiss